REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 21-54 remain pending in this application. Claims 1-20 have been

canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 21-54 have been added.

Priority

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's acknowledgment of the claim for priority

and safe receipt of the priority document.

Information Disclosure Statement

As requested by the Examiner, a copy of previously cited Japanese

Publication No. 2002-063063 is being resubmitted for the Examiner's consideration.

35 U.S.C. §112

The new claims overcome the Examiner's rejections under this section.

Interview

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for conducting an interview with the

undersigned and Applicants' representatives on February 8, 2006. During the

interview, it was agreed that the proposed claims and arguments overcome the prior

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501.43042X00

art rejection. This amendment includes the claims presented during the interview and the following corresponds to arguments presented during the interview.

35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Barnett (EP 1115225). These rejections are traversed as follows.

The present invention is directed to a method and system for managing failure information in an environment in which a virtualization device has a virtual volume corresponding to a real volume of a storage device. Based upon relationship information between the virtual volume and the real volume, an error notification from the virtualization device can be associated with an error notification from the storage device.

On the other hand, Barnett et al merely disclose using physical topology information to determine the root error. According to Barnett et al, a storage area network (SAN) includes a communication architecture manager (CAM) which determines the root error based upon the physical topology information of the SAN. However, Barnett et al are silent about virtualization and the use of relationship information between a virtual volume and a real volume such that an error notification from the virtualization device can be associated with an error notification from the storage device.
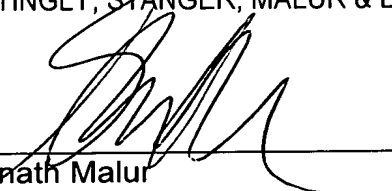
New claims 22-32 are based upon claims which were filed in a continuing

application having Serial No. 11/288,205.   As mentioned by the Examiner during the

interview, this continuing application may not be examined for several months.

Therefore, the claims from the continuing application have been added to the present

application with some minor modifications.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of

Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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